

with soldiers armed with arrows, javelins and spears. But when the storm beat fiercely into the faces of the chariot horses, what driver could use them effectively against the Israelites? When the Canaanites should shoot their arrows in the teeth of the wind, what impression would those arrows make upon the soldiers of Barak? Almost equally useless would be the javelins. And when the soldiers of Sisera should find their artillery, the chariots, of no avail, and all their weapons impotent, what is left to them but to flee?

With a woman's intuition, Deborah foresaw all this, and cried, "Is not the Lord gone out before thee?" God used so simple a thing as a thunder storm to provide deliverance for his people. In like manner God sends the storms of the present day with his own wise ends in view.

The Retreat.

Sisera fled to the tent of Heber the Kenite. But the host, the soldiers, took the road "to Harosheth of the Gentiles." It is the road by which they had come. Down they fled, till it led them into the narrow between Mount Carmel on the left and the river of Kishon on the right. Soon that narrow was crowded with the fugitives, and among them with fatal effect plunged the terrified, maddened horses of the nine hundred chariots of iron. The artillery was turned against the invaders. On they sped; they can not stop, for thousands more of Canaanites are crowding on behind them. Because of the mountain, and of the river, which is now greatly swollen, they can turn neither to the right nor to the left. Forward they must go: nothing else is possible. They reach the ford. It is a torrent, twenty feet deep, and swift as a mountain stream always runs in flood time. Read Judges 5: 19. "The kings came and fought; then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo. They took no gain of money. They fought from heaven"—there was fighting from heaven—"the stars in their courses fought against Sisera" and defeated his army. Then in the retreat "the river Kishon swept them away, that ancient river the river Kishon. Oh, my soul, thou hast trodden down strength."

The historical record tells us that "all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword: there was not a man left." As we see these marauders, and robbers, thus defeated and fleeing, with the steep sides of Carmel on the left, the river in front and on the right, and victorious Israel behind, we can understand why there was not a man left. And when we consider the character and the purposes of those invaders, to drag the young men and young women of Israel as slaves, who can say that the judgment was undeserved?

A question of vital importance is likely to come before the next meeting of the General Assembly, North. Some weeks ago, in the Presbytery of New York, three young men applied for licensure, who dissent radically from Presbyterian doctrine. For instance, when asked whether Paul does not teach the fall of man, one of them replied, "Yes, but there is where I differ from Paul." The Presbytery at first declined to license them, but some days later, it licensed these men to preach. Thereupon the "Congregationalist" proclaimed to the world that Presbyterians are no longer bound by the Confession of Faith.

ENGLAND'S SOCIAL CONDITION.

The social condition of England is in many ways a puzzle to me. It is a strange thing to us in America that the civilization of the mother country, from which we would expect so much, should produce so much of unemployment, so much of pauperism, so much of drunkenness, of the continuously besotted kind. It is difficult for us to understand the violent outbreaks of the suffragettes, the women of good social standing, some of old and noble families, who storm the gates of Parliament House and have to be arrested and sent to prison. This is not our American type of womanhood, and is altogether unlike the spirit and methods by which our American women are accomplishing so much at the very foundation of our social order, and the uplifting of all the people. At a great meeting in Albert Hall, the women were so disorderly that many had to be dragged out by force. The organist was fortunate in his humor when he struck up on the great organ, "Oh, dear, what can the matter be?"

For the church year ending March 31, 1909, according to the statistics in the minutes of the Assembly 15,998 were added to the churches on examination or Profession of Faith; about 1,800 more than the year before. The total of communicants reported is 279,803. One person was brought into the church for every twelve communicants. It is not a pleasant thing to count the number of churches that were actually barren, producing not one new Christian life. But many of these are small, sometimes unnurtured churches, having only "a name to live."

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY.

In discussing the Central University matter, we quoted paragraph five of the Carnegie circular, and its definition of denominational colleges: "Institutions which have no formal connection with a denomination, but a strong sympathetic one, and which are generally looked upon as denominational." Very generally it has been understood that the "Carnegie Foundation" intends to exclude all such from its benefices. In a private letter however we are informed that in the First Annual Report, on page 21, twenty-six institutions of this character are reported as having been aided; and in the Second Annual Report, page 59, in the statement that "the Foundation is not concerned with the fact that a given college was founded under the auspices of a religious organization, or that it retains today a sympathetic relation to it." We had not seen these "Annual Reports"; they were not sent to us. We gladly copy the extracts for the light they give. Our brethren in Kentucky have our best wishes in the educational work they are doing, and we are glad to promote it in every practicable way.

Jesus offers to be your partner. The silent, unseen partner is usually the back-bone of the company. His means and advice are largely depended upon. Jesus will secure success to every one who associates him with himself. That early morning on Galilee's shore, when the fishermen had caught nothing, as soon as Christ came and told them what to do, a wonderful draft of fishes was made, and breaking the net.